

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAM-01

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R 271228Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 869

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, BU

SUBJECT: CUNHAL VISIT TO BULGARIA

1. FEBRUARY 20-22 VISIT BY PCP CHIEF CUNHAL APPARENTLY PRODUCED LITTLE IF ANYTHING BEYOND CUSTOMARY EXPRESSIONS OF MUTUAL ADMIRATION AND SUPPORT. EVEN THESE SEEMED A LITTLE SUBDUED. MAJOR MEDIA EVENT OF VISIT WAS PRESENTATION TO CUNHAL OF ORDER OF GEORGI DIMITROV BY ZHIVKOV. COMMUNIQUE CONTAINED NOTHIFA OF SUBSTANCE AND CUNHAL DEPARTURE WAS BURIED ON INSIDE PAGES, OBSCURED BY PUBLICATION OF "MAIN DIRECTIVES" TO BE PRESENTED AT BCP 11TH CONGRESS.

2. PORTUGUESE AMB DA VEIGA TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE HAD BEEN CAREFUL TO ABSENT HIMSELF FROM FUNCTIONS SURROUNDING CUNHAL VISIT. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT CUNHAL HAD BEEN RECEIVED "AS IF HE WERE A HEAD OF
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STATE", AN EVALUATION EMBASSY CANNOT SHARE: MEETINGS

AND RECEPTIONS SEEMED TO US ON PAR WITH TREATMENT
ACCORDED OTHER VISITING CP LEADERS. ACCORDING TO
AN INFORMANT OF PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR, CUNHAL
LOOKED VERY TIRED AND IN POOR PHYSICAL SHAPE.

3. PORTUGUESE FONMIN ANTUNES IS COMING TO BULGARIA
MARCH 11 FOR TWO-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT PLUS ONE DAY
SIGHTSEEING. PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR THOUGHT
BULGARIANS MAY HAVE TONED DOWN CUNHAL COMMUNIQUE
IN ORDER NOT TO QUEER ANTUNES VISIT WHICH THEY HAD
SOUGHT AND EVEN URGED.
HERZ

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